

# Iron County Register.

BY ELI D. AKE.  
IRONTON, I. D. MISSOURI.

## What the Matter Was With Dawley

PEOPLE speaking of Egbert Dawley called him sometimes "an exceedingly well-informed man," sometimes "real bright," and sometimes "finely educated," but they not infrequently added that he was a trifle conceited, or various equivalents in the vernacular. As a matter of fact he was well informed and he certainly had the self-confidence that a certain degree of knowledge begets. He was a good-looking young man, too, with a lofty, pallid brow and a trim little dark mustache. He wore eye-glasses, which increased his appearance of intellectuality, and he dressed very neatly—rather too neatly, if anything.

Dawley felt that he was naturally fitted for a diplomatic career—something of that sort. He had artistic tastes and might have gone in for painting or sculpture or even music, but fate had pitched him into commercial life, and he was obliged to make the best of it. He was not popular with the rest of the men in the house, but they were a common, ordinary lot, and they naturally felt his superiority. Sometimes a feeling of this sort is manifested by "joshing," but Dawley was not "joshed" to any great extent. Either he showed a lofty indifference to it or else he retorted with some aggravating sarcasm. The best thing was to let him alone, and that course was pretty generally pursued.

In society Dawley was the arbiter of taste and an all-around authority on things in general. If he was confronted with pottery he would begin to bubble over with the distinctive characteristics of Wedgwood, Dresden or Sevres, and he would go back to the Roman and Grecian art, with perhaps and airy offhand allusion to the Etruscan mysteries in connection with the Portland vase. If he was invited to give an opinion on some gem from the picture department of a down-town store he would discourse very impressively of breadth and depth of treatment and chiaro oscuro and would finally back to the Poussin and Giottos. When he talked about the theater his listeners soon became conscious that most of the actors of the present day were entirely wanting in a delicate appreciation of the motive of their parts, and in his intellectual communion with the Sevignes and Thrales of his circle he was a literary Daniel come to judgment. Nevertheless he was a good dancer and he had his mustache, so the buds did not shun him. He rather prided himself, too, on his small talk. On the whole, he liked the society of women. They came nearer to appreciating him than men did. Still, he never particularized in this respect. The boys down town said he was too darned stuck on himself.

One morning there came a new stenographer to take the place of Miss Grigsby, the dignified, middle-aged lady who had resigned her position to become companion to a prosperous invalid aunt in the country. Dawley saw her at her desk at a distance for several days before he took the trouble to go close enough to get a good look at her, and he might not have gone then had he not noticed that her hair was of the true Titian red. For one thing he had heard the men speak of her rapturously as "a peach," and he thought he knew the kind of young person that would interest them. She was busy when he passed her, and he saw that her hands were plump and white and fairly well shaped, but the nails were disfigured by being bitten. Next his critical glance took in her little double chin, her tip-tilted nose and the whiteness and fine texture of her skin. It had got to this point when the young woman finished the sheet on which she had been writing, then she raised a pair of rather repossessing blue eyes to Dawley's, and nodding at him in a friendly, offhand way, said: "Good morning."

Dawley smiled in his most winning manner, and, returning the salutation, passed on. For a week or two this morning greeting was about the extent of their communication. Then Dawley felt a disposition to linger and sound the little stenographer's mental depth, if she had any, which he feared was not the case. He premeditated a little opening remark apropos of the typewriter on Babylonian bricks, but he forgot that when he told him there was a smudge on his nose.

"Is there?" he asked in some confusion, fumbling for his handkerchief. "On the right side," she said. "There! No, now you've only made it worse. Here, give it to me. Stoop down." She took the handkerchief, and, moistening it with her tongue, rubbed Dawley's nose vigorously and then looked at it with her head on one side. Just then Sparks, one of the coarsest beasts in the place, came along, with his face on a broad grin.

"Here, I ain't going to stand for that, Miss Dixon," he chuckled. "Of course Eggie is a nice boy and all that and you don't mean anything by it, but all dates are off between you and me after that."

"Oh, forget it," retorted Miss Dixon. "You're not going to let a little thing like that worry you." "Besides that," pursued Sparks, "Eggie has got a true, manly heart, and it ain't right to trifle with it."

"It was my nose she was trifling with," said Dawley. "Don't you mind him, Miss Dixon; he's merely trying to be humorous, and this is about as near as he ever comes to it. He thinks he's doing pretty well, though, and he really is for him." "Oh, come off," said Sparks. "Tell me how it feels."

"It's such hard work to explain anything to you," replied Dawley as he walked away.

He felt disgusted with the whole thing, and he was still more disgusted when Sparks went around with a handkerchief in his hand, begging the other fellows to wipe an imaginary black spot off his nose. This request was always granted, and for a time it was quite the usual thing for the men to pull out pocket mirrors and handkerchiefs and rub their own noses when Dawley approached them. Still, nobody could have guessed how the proceedings exasperated the young man from his manner, and the joke naturally died at last.

At first he decided that Miss Dixon's action was somewhat indiscrete; he changed his mind about it afterward. It might have been in anybody else, but she was too entirely a child of nature, tempered with Chicago, that it seemed on consideration almost proper. A day seldom passed that he did not go up to her desk to talk to her, and he found himself very much amused by her artless chatter. He felt that he was unending. He occasionally hurled Babylonian bricks at her and was not in the least offended when she told him that his language was "fierce" and desired him to come down to where she could reach him without standing on tiptoe and ripping the seams in her sleeves. He told Johnson, the one man in the house with whom he was on intimate terms, that "the little girl was simply delicious."

"Watch her chewing gum now," said Johnson.

"Oh, well," replied Dawley, tolerantly, "that's just a part of her. You ought to have heard her telling me about her ma and her pa, and the way she called down a young lady friend of hers about something the young lady friend had said about her to another young lady friend."

"All the same, you oughtn't to get her to thinking that you are gone on her," Johnson said. "I don't say that you do, only you know that there's a."



SHE TOOK THE HANDKERCHIEF.

gaining to be a sort of impression that you are."

"Oh, Scott, no!" exclaimed Dawley. "Oh, of course, I jolly her one in awhile, but she knows how to take that—I guess she does."

When Dawley began to think it over he was not so sure whether Miss Dixon knew how to take him. He had occasionally made protestations of an ardent and consuming passion. He had called her Emmeline for some time when they were alone, but she had laughed at him and he had supposed that she had understood perfectly well that he was not in earnest. He was, in the main, a right-minded young man, and, recalling the fable of the boy and the frogs, he reflected that what was sport to him might be death to her. He decided that he would keep himself steadily to the lace department and away from Miss Dixon's desk. He did so for about a week and, then, yielding to a feeling of curiosity, he went over and found her chatting in a very animated fashion with Sparks and showing no sign of mental anguish.

"They must be keeping you busy these days, Mr. Dawley," she called to him as he passed. "Haven't got a grouch, have you?"

"Oh, no," replied Dawley, rather frostily and without stopping. He felt irritated, and vaguely uneasy, and when he heard her join her musical laugh to Sparks' raucous laugh a moment later his irritation turned to something like rage. For another week he avoided her, and during that time his uneasiness became more defined. He lost his appetite to a great extent, which he could hardly account for. At the end of the week he concluded that as the young woman was evidently in no danger of misplacing her affections he might as well go back and talk to her. He went.

She was not busy and as he approached she looked up at him with the old bright smile and familiar nod. "Hello, Eggie!" she said.

"I wish you wouldn't call me that," said Dawley, rather testily. "You've learned that from Sparks."

"What's the matter?" she inquired. "Will Mr. Dawley do?"

"No, you needn't call me that, either—what's that—a new ring?"

She extended her left hand and showed him. "Either that or a slot machine," she said. "What's your guess?"

"Where did you get it?" asked Dawley, who felt himself growing pale.

"Got that from my steady."

"Do you mean," said Dawley, slowly and with an effort, "that it is an engagement ring—that it was given to you by the man you expect to marry?"

"Sure thing," said Miss Dixon, blushing a little.

Then Dawley knew what was the matter with him.—Chicago Daily Record.

**A Lenten Vow.**

The members of a young woman's club at Binghamton, N. Y., have vowed not to speak during Lent. Evidently, remarks the Chicago Times-Herald, they have concluded that none of the young men of Binghamton will be likely to want to talk business during the 40 days and 42 nights preceding Easter.

**Union of Great Britain and Ireland.**

This is the one hundredth anniversary of the union of Great Britain and Ireland. George III. abandoned the empty title of king of France and adopted that of king of Great Britain and Ireland, with rose, shamrock and thistle as emblems.

## PITH AND POINT.

Over-confidence has wrecked many a career.—Chicago Journal.

When one gets too jealous he begins to see things that don't happen.—Indianapolis News.

If a woman takes the trouble to hate you, you've always got a fighting chance.—N. Y. Herald.

Some men have such unfortunate dispositions that they work against their own business.—Atchison Globe.

When a man tells a woman that he understands her thoroughly, he is either just falling in love with her or just falling out.—Town Topics.

The Justice—"I don't remember ever seeing you before." The Accused—"No, your honor; you see, you don't belong to our set."—Boston Transcript.

"It's bad to have too much confidence in yourself," said the janitor philosopher, "but it's worse to have too much in other people."—Chicago Daily News.

Chaser—"What did I hear you order Belgium, hark?" Spacer—"Yes, the editor told me to write up the subject thoroughly, so I'm trying to get full of it."—Chicago Daily News.

"I would give you my seat, sir," said the fair young girl to the pale young man who was hanging to a strap in the street car, "but I'm very tired. I have sat through a matinee performance of Rantem, the actor."

"Never mind, madam," said the pale man, taking a fresh grip on the strap. "I am Rantem, the actor."—Baltimore American.

**SAILORS HAVE PIANOS NOW.**

Master Performances Frequently Heard on Coasting Steamers on the Atlantic.

What struck the visitor as odd was that an upright piano stood along the port side of the cabin. He could not suppress a short whistle of astonishment which the skipper was quick to notice, says the New York Sun.

A piano on a 300-ton schooner engaged in the lumber-carrying trade when there was a big hole in the cabin tablecloth seemed to the visitor to be peculiar. Still he stifled his desire to laugh as his host said, with a wave of the hand:

"Sit down and I'll play you a tune." First was Brahms, then came Beethoven, Schubert and Schumann. Then all was still. The master of the schooner was the first to break the silence as he said:

"After all, I like Brahms best. Schubert seems to—"

The visitor could not contain himself any longer, and stammered: "I never knew that sailors were with this sort of thing. Are there many instruments aboard ship?"

"Few pianos like that, I warrant you. I picked that one up in the Pacific. It came out of the wreck of an English bark that struck near Valparaiso. Got it for a song from the underwriters. Better now than when first launched into the sea of music."

"Why do you have it, then?" "I mean it is not strange to find a piano on board a sailing vessel like this?"

"Not at all, not at all," replied the master mariner. "It is all the fashion these days. There was a time when the cabin of the average coasting schooner looked as desolate as the rear end of a Maine barn."

"Are you now got up with some idea of comfort. I know at least 25 schooners in the trade between south of Hatteras and east of Sandy Hook that have fine pianos in their cabins. One of them, the new six-master, George W. Wells, has a grand, but then she has plenty of beam."

"I do not know how the idea of placing pianos aboard vessels in the coastwise trade originated, but I imagine that some skipper who had taken his family to sea with him decided to lug along the pet dog and maybe the piano. Anyhow, there is nothing strange about the sound of a piano aboard the schooner type of craft these days. The big lines can't have a monopoly, you know."

"I remember passing Winter Quarters shoal lightship one calm evening last August in the company of 11 schooners all bound north. It was just after supper, and the crew had gathered about the fore-castle to smoke their turning-in pipe of tobacco, when somebody on the nearest schooner to us began to pound away on an organ that was in the cabin. He was mutilating one of the comic operas, and I just turned to and gave him a piece of my mind over the key-board. That was the signal for a general row, and in less time than it takes to tell it seven of the 11 schooners were battling away at naturals, sharps and flats. Those who hadn't any pianos came up into the quiet of the evening with banjos, harmonicas or concertinas, and it was the grandest vaudeville performance that old Neptune ever heard."

"There is nothing really surprising about seeing a piano on board a vessel of good tonnage these days, if she happens to have a good owner. I was down in the Erie basin the other day and heard the chords of a tip-top piano coming from a canal boat lying up there for the winter."

**Chinese Fun.**

A man asked a friend to stay and have tea. Unfortunately, there was no tea in the house, so a servant was sent to borrow some. Before the latter had returned the water was already boiling, and it became necessary to pour in more cold water. This happened several times, and at length the boiler was overflowing, but no tea had come.

Then the man's wife said to her husband: "As we don't seem likely to get any tea, you had better offer your friend a bath!"—History of Chinese Literature.

**Men Pretty Decent After All.**

Men are pretty decent, after all. A man walked into this office today and said he wanted to pay a bill 22 years old. The bookkeeper could not find the account. "Never mind," the man said, "I remember the amount; it is \$16, and here is the money. I would have paid it long ago, but have not been able." Did you ever have a thing like that happen to you?—Atchison Globe.

**Suspensions.**

Some men think nearly everybody is lying awake nights trying to invent ways to screw them.—Washington (La.) Democrat.

## THE GATHERING STORM.

Concentration of Power in the Hands of Monopolists Will Hasten Anti-Trust Legislation.

The trade papers are beginning to realize that the consolidations and combinations which are now absorbing most of the great industries of the country are hastening the day of anti-trust legislation. The Metal Worker, while making a defense of the new steel trust, yet sees the possibility of legislation which will make such combinations impossible. It suggests that the undertaking was "forced by the desire to protect existing interests, seriously threatened as they were by possible warfare, rather than by a desire to unload the properties upon the public at inflated prices." It thinks it sees an advantage in the trust in that "the concentration of power in the hands of one large consolidation is expected to bring about a decided steadying of the markets."

It speaks in a commonplace way of one of the great evils of the trust, saying: "As a competitor, so huge an organization could develop very dangerous strength by waging war in one territory and drawing the sinews therefrom from uncontested markets."

The Metal Worker evidently understands the methods employed by the trusts—methods which some strange to say seem to regard as legitimate business. And yet the paper quoted cannot refrain from a prophecy of trouble. It says:

"It will take clever management on the part of the consolidation to meet and break the force of aroused public opinion. Ignorance is sure to be inflamed by the colossal undertakings now about to be consummated. There are many who are eager to fan the flames."

And again:

"It is certain that the new consolidation will lend much support to the anti-trust agitation and will give its shining mark. Keen eyes will watch every move, and unscrupulous demagogues and an unbridled press will distort even the most trivial incident."

It will be seen that even the defenders of monopoly are conscious that the storm is gathering. Although they consider it "unscrupulous" and "demagogic" for anyone to condemn a trust, yet they are able to measure the force of public opinion when once it is aroused and they are fearful lest the reign of monopoly may, after all, be short-lived.—The Commoner.

## PLACES ENOUGH FOR ALL.

Plenty of Plans for Republican Office Seekers Under Our Royal President.

At the time of President McKinley's second inauguration, a few days since, some surprise was occasioned by the multitudes who thronged to Washington. It was remarked that a second-term president was an old story; his personality, his character, and his policy are known. Moreover, it was supposed that the most powerful incentive—the hope of federal office—did not exist; for the reason that a re-election of the president usually means that the offices will, in the main, continue to be filled by the same incumbents as during the first term. It appears, however, that the crowds knew their business, and that there is a place for all.

Schley's famous remark after the Santiago victory. A Washington newspaper thus explains the situation, and shows its differences from the ordinary second-term opening:

"President McKinley is busy, in his affable way, receiving the many applicants for office who are in Washington with a view to one or another remunerative appointment. Fortunately for the dispenser of honors and places, he has a large number at his disposal. The executive government of the Philippines alone will demand all sorts of positions, who will have excellent pay, because the money comes out of the Philippines, and many of the positions are of great importance to the natives. Cuba and Porto Rico offer other openings, and it is probable that many changes will be made in the diplomatic and consular service. Plums for the faithful as there were four years ago. All the office-seekers have to do is to wait for the call, and to be patient, but determined. Hordes of deserving strikers and hordes of the past have gone away because they had not the wisdom or courage to refuse to take 'no' for an answer."

The army bill will also make places for a larger retinue of needy republican civilians, although the patronage in that line is supposed to be largely bespoken in advance by United States senators and representatives in connection with the present session of congress in accordance with the McKinley policy.—Albany Argus.

## POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

It was William McKinley who told congress that it was our plan to grant Porto Rico free trade and it was William McKinley also who a few weeks later used all the power and patronage of the executive to force through congress a Porto Rican tariff.—N. Y. Post.

President Hadley, of Yale, says there will be an emperor on a throne in Washington within 25 years unless the power of the trusts is controlled. There is no need to worry, however. Some day the American people will wake up, and then they will do a lot of correcting of abuses in a very short time.—Cleveland Leader.

In his inaugural address the president declares as regards the Philippines: "We will not leave the destiny of the loyal millions of the island to the disloyal thousands who are in rebellion against the United States." The president's intimation is that for every Filipino rebel there are thousands of loyal natives. Gen. MacArthur has stated the contrary, as have some of the Filipino commissioners sent out by the president. The 70,000 troops in the islands contradict the president.—Pittsburgh Post.

Midus, Croesus and the other rich fellows of antiquity look small in comparison with the new steel consolidation, with its capital of over a billion. The "dreams of avarice" will have to be expanded to take in the vast amount of capital now brought under one manager's control in a single line of business. If large businesses can confer on an industry and its workers, together with consumers, the large benefits that some persons have predicted, this monster steel trust ought to prove it very quickly. One benefit it will almost certainly bring at an early date—tariff reform.—Baltimore Sun.

## HADLEY'S PREDICTION.

Tendency of the Industrial Monopolies to Turn America into an Empire.

"We shall have an emperor in Washington within 25 years unless we can create a public sentiment which will regulate the trusts," said President Arthur T. Hadley, of Yale university, in an address delivered in the Old South church in Boston recently. The assertion is not so fantastic as it may seem, although little attention might be paid to it, did it come from a less thoughtful and less scholarly member of society than President Hadley.

The emperor may not come within 25 years; but his ultimate coming is by no means impossible, or even improbable. When the great industrial monopolies are once firmly established, it will not be difficult for the men that control them to work their will in politics and government. The complaint is already made that presidential elections disturb business, and the question of extending the term of office of the president is seriously agitated. This disturbance will become more and more pronounced as industry and commerce become more and more centralized. Fundamental differences in party creeds will increase the uncertainty growing out of presidential contests and consequently the business uncertainty of the country. Anything that disturbs business is popularly regarded as objectionable, and the disposition of the trusts will be to minimize this disturbance as much as possible. The first step from a republic towards an empire would probably come in the selection of a "safe" president to a third term. A crisis might easily arise in which this third term would be considered necessary for the preservation of the commercial interests of the country. Out of this third term might as naturally come a quasi-dictatorship, and out of this dictatorship empire. It is not impossible—no more impossible than was the transformation of Napoleon III. from a president to an emperor under the belief that "the empire is peace."

The experiment with a republican government in the United States is by no means conclusive, although most of us fancy that it is. The supreme task of a republic is yet to be undertaken. It has not yet been proved that a republic can perform its functions satisfactorily in the midst of a highly complicated civilization extending over a large area, with diverse and often conflicting interests. The machinery is very cumbersome and operates clumsily.

We have seen a brilliant illustration of this in the miniature tariff war that the administration is conducting with Russia. Nearly four years ago a tariff bill was passed, and the secretary of the treasury only recently got around to construing a clause relative to the duties on sugar. This clause was construed to meet the demands of certain interests, and the secretary set back in his chair with the conviction that another land was off his shoulders, and that the courts might dispose of the matter as they pleased.

The link on the paper was hardly dry before M. de Witte, the Russian minister of finance, had issued an order increasing the duty on American imports of agriculture. The retaliation was almost instantaneous. M. de Witte was not obliged to convene a congress in session and wait for an American import duty to be lowered.

Imports were lobbied through. He was in a position to declare war at once, it would require more months in this country to inaugurate such a tariff war than it required minutes in Russia, and consequently Russia is in a far better position than the United States to meet the demands of her growing industries from day to day.

In the fight for markets centralization in government must soon count for as much as centralization in industry, and when that centralization comes necessary to the men that control the great trusts, have any reason to believe that they will not exert themselves to the utmost to obtain it? It must be remembered, too, that money is everything in politics and government. It is the lever that moves the government, and the men that have this lever in their hands are the men that can make over the form of a government to suit themselves.—Detroit Free Press.

## HELP FOR CUBA.

Taxation Without Representation Has Been the Republican Method.

President McKinley's order abolishing the duty levied by the American military government on all tobacco exported from Cuba is a concession to their industrial interests which the Cubans have long desired.

Our military occupation began on January 1, 1896. For over two years now Cuba has been precluded from negotiating commercial treaties with other countries. The market she formerly had in Spain has been lost to her. Her tariff has been made for her at Washington, and certainly not from the standpoint of Cuban interests exclusively. American vessels have been allowed to enter the coastwise Cuban trade, but Cuban vessels have not been admitted to the coastwise trade of the United States. And the duty which our military governor ordered to be levied on Cuba's tobacco exports was perhaps the unfair test of all; for by our action Cuba was already shut off from securing concessions to her tobacco exports in the tariff schedules of other countries.

Y. C. we have given to Cuba no compensating reductions in our own import duties on her products.

In short, we have levied taxes adverse to Cuban industry at both ends of the line, and Cubans have had no representation at all, either in the Havana government, that has decreed the export taxes, nor in the Washington government, that has imposed the import taxes. Nevertheless, "no taxation without representation" was a splendid rallying cry—for our ancestors.—N. Y. World.

The republican papers which advocated the success of republican policies last fall and who afterward opposed the ship subsidy bill simply stultified themselves before the people. They were right in opposing so inequitable a measure, but in doing so they threw consistency to the wind.—St. Paul Globe.

## JUST FUN FOR FUNSTON.

A Daring Project that Promises to Be the Most Romantic of His Career.

## ON A STILL HUNT FOR GEN. AGUINALDO.

With a Few Intrepid Officers, Six Veteran Scouts and a Company of Native Scouts He Has Gone Into Isabella Province to Try and Trap the Filipino Chief.

Manila, March 24.—Gen. Funston is now engaged in a daring project which promises to be the greatest and most romantic achievement of his eventful career. In January, from his hiding place in the province of Isabella, Aguinaldo wrote letters threatening the sub-chiefs who had taken the oath of allegiance to the United States. Later, Aguinaldo ordered the insurgent forces in southern Luzon to join him at a rendezvous in Isabella province. The rebel officer intrusted with these orders secretly negotiated with the Americans. On securing necessary information Gen. Funston planned Aguinaldo's capture, and, with Gen. MacArthur's authorization, Gen. Funston proceeded, two weeks ago, to make the attempt.

**The Daring Band.**

Gen. Funston, with Surgeon-Major Harris, Capt. Newton, of the Thirty-fourth infantry; Lieut. Admire, of the Twenty-second infantry; Lieut. Mitchell, of the Forty-third infantry; six veteran scouts, and a company of native scouts, all picked men, embarked on the gunboat Vicksburg, and were landed on a remote beach above Baler.

**The Plan of Action.**

It was arranged that Aguinaldo's emissary, with the native scouts, should pass themselves off as insurgent troops who, having captured Gen. Funston and others, were taking them as prisoners to Aguinaldo.

At the right time, when brought before Aguinaldo, Gen. Funston was to give a signal, when the tables were to be turned and Aguinaldo was to be seized. Six days' march into the interior were contemplated. Treachery was considered possible, but every precaution was taken.

**To Co-operate with Funston.**

The troops in New Vizcaya and New Ecija and the gunboats Vicksburg and Albany were to co-operate with Gen. Funston's force. The Vicksburg is expected here Sunday.

Col. Rosario, with 51 men and 56 rifles, has surrendered to Col. Baldwin of the Fourth infantry, at San Francisco de Malabon, Cavite province.

**Action in Laguna.**

Lieut. Dean of Troop C, Sixth cavalry, has engaged a force of insurgents at Tubig, Laguna province, killing several of them and capturing seven men and 24 rifles.

**More Insurgents Surrender.**

Manila, March 25.—The Province of Cavite four insurgent officers and 53 men, with 56 rifles, have surrendered to Lieut.-Col. Frank D. Baldwin, of the Fourth United States infantry, and one insurgent officer and 12 men, with 16 rifles, to Col. Walter S. Schuyler, of the Forty-sixth volunteer infantry.

The attendance at the services of the Evangelical church in Manila is not diminished. Protestantism is spreading rapidly in the Province of Pampanga.

## DEAL WITH SPAIN SETTLED.

Title to Cagayan and Other Islands Confirmed by Spain and the Price for Them Paid.

Washington, March 24.—Secretary Hay gave to the Spanish minister, Duke d'Arcos, a treasury warrant for \$100,000 in payment for the island of Cagayan and other islands near the Philippine group. The payment was made in accordance with the terms of a treaty negotiated last November.

The protocols also were signed exchanging final ratifications which confirm the title of the United States to these islands.

## POSTAGE RATES TO CUBA.

United States Domestic Rates and Classification to Apply to Cuba After April 1 Next.

Washington, March 24.—Postmaster-General Smith in accordance with the decision arrived at by the cabinet, has issued the following order: "Postmasters are informed that on and after April next, the United States' domestic rates of postage and classification shall apply to all mail matter passing between the United States and Cuba. Notices of change should be displayed in post-offices corridors and given to the public press when acceptable as a news item."

## SEVERE FIGHTING AT HARTBEESTFONTEIN.

Cape Town, March 25.—Severe fighting occurred Friday, March 25, between the British and Boers at Hartbeestfontein, east of Klerksdorp.

## ANOTHER RICH GOLD FIND.

Victoria, B. C., March 24.—The steamer Cottage City has arrived from the north with 24 passengers. She brings news of a rich find on Slate creek and Miller gulch in the Chastachina district. Four thousand dollars in gold was taken out in a week on Miller gulch.

## LOCOMOTIVE SHOP BURNED.

Schneetady, N. Y., March 23.—The hammer shop of the Schneetady locomotive works was burned to the ground. About 200 men will be temporarily thrown out of employment.

## DEATH FROM MORIFICATION.

Berlin, March 25.—A dispatch to the Lokal Anzeiger from Stuttgart announces that Baron Schott von Schottenstein, the Wurtemberg premier, whose sudden withdrawal from the cabinet, owing to his being implicated in a pending trial, created a sensation, has committed suicide in Ulm.

## A SICK PRELATE.

New York, March 24.—The condition of the lord archbishop of Ontario, Travers Lewis, who is lying critically ill at the Empire hotel in this city, was reported unchanged.

## GREAT BRITAIN PROTESTS.

Arbitrary Action of Russia in Corea Likely to Give Rise to Another Crisis.

Yokohama, March 25.—Advices from Seoul announce that the Korean government has dismissed from office Mr. Brown, director-general of Korean customs, and that Great Britain is protesting against his dismissal.

**Regarded as Another Score for Russia.**

London, March 25.—The dismissal of Mr. McLeary Brown from the post of director-general of Korean customs, is regarded in London as another score for Russia. In 1895, and again in 1892 Russian pressure was exerted to procure his removal. In the latter case he was only reinstated after a British squadron had moved to Cnemulpo.

As recently as a few months ago Russia strongly opposed an attempt by Mr. Brown to raise a loan for the Korean government to purchase shares in the railway from Seoul to Fusan. As a result of her opposition the negotiations for the loan failed.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Mail asserts that M. Pavloff, Russian minister at Seoul, has protested against Korea taking foreigners into the government service, with the exception of Russians, and demanded the appointment of the latter, but Korea seems determined, with the help of the powers, to defend her integrity.